red letter music co.

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Dear Nephi -

Thanks for listening — let me know if there's any other info you need -

Hope you like the music!

— Marilyn Harris

Marilyn Harris

Releasing A CD?

Reviews

Marilyn Harris, "Between The Lines"

Wrightwood Records

Wow. I can't believe Marilyn Harris is an indie artist. This is top notch jazz/pop. Something like Billie Holiday meets Steely Dan..... but not exactly. A silky smooth voice is the first thing you notice. Then, still early in the first song, you realize the incredible talent of all the musicians. Tight, well-produced, very pro. I kept thinking I was listening to someone who had already made it!

Above and beyond the performance is the songs. This is expert songwriting, with extraordinary natural gifts underneath the crafting. They move. They breathe. Every step perfectly choreographed. As a reviewer of many indie artists, one thing I know is that often good production tried to camouflage mediocre songwriting. Not here. The lyrics speak to an intellectual mind, the music swings up and back in all the right places, and the bluesy touches are perfectly fitting.

Recorded over a 10 year period, Between The Lines, traveled with Harris from New York to Chicago to LA and back again. In between her other musical endeavors, at that. She has worked with notable jazz artists, composed numerous television scores, produced music for commercials, you name it.

Harris, who also plays inspiring piano on the CD, has done everything right. This artist deserves not only a listen, but a lot of success. Really. Go to her site and listen to a soundbyte. Amazing.

The only mildly disappointing feature of this disc is its packaging. I was surprised when I listened, as the cover does not lead me to expect the great music within.

Marilyn Harris

"Between The Lines"

(Website)

Marilyn Harris has been a professional composer and musician since earning her Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Connecticut, where she studied with Hale Smith and Charles Whittenberg. Settling in New York City, Marilyn began working for E.B. Marks as a music proofreader and went on to become a music editor at Belwin-Mills. Marilyn performed live on cruise ships and in clubs and piano bars and worked extensively as a music copyist with jazz arranger, Gil Evans. Her songwriting and arranging work includes work for Childrens' Television Workshop / Sesame Street, Bette Midler, Lola Falana, Donna McKechnie and hit songwriter, Allee Willis.

After studying film scoring with Ray Wright and Manny Albam at Eastman School of Music in 1978, Marilyn produced music for commercials in Chicago for such clients as United Airlines, McDonald's, Kraft, and Kellogg's, Back in New York, her songs were recorded by jazz vocalists, Anne Marie Moss and Jackie Paris, and Free Flight, her jazzy rondo for flute and piano was published by Kendor. Her "Romp" for French Horn and Piano has been performed by Dale Clevenger of the Chicago Symphony, and her music was featured in the 1996 "Jazz Sisters" concert hosted by American Women Composers in Chicago.

Together with her husband, Mark Wolfram, she composed, performed and produced over 200 musical cues for ABC-TV's General Hospital, and scored episodes of the animated, "Flintstone Kids". Most recently, Marilyn co-composed a song on Jim Brickman's gold record CD, "Picture This", as well as co-writing the closing number to Brickman's live show. Her theme and score to the recorded book, "The Hidden Legacy", has drawn kudos, as well as her own self-published CD of 15 original songs on Wrightwood Records, "**Between The Lines**".

(biography quoted from press kit)

"**Only You**" is a delicious Al Jarreau-inspired-type-of-gem that fills every precious space with warm and inviting sound. What a divine production at work here. "**Extra Baggage**" Jazzy seduction that oozes with a self-confident fragrance. "**Forever**" In the class of some of the finest composers in the world, **Marilyn** gracefully lets her genius shine through with elegance and refined expression on this number. "**Mahina**" finely crafted musicianship and lyrical accentuation abound. "**Keeping An Open Heart**" The synths are so well crafted and mixed. Outstanding job on the whole exquisitely lavish affair.

"**What I See In You**" Bursting with contagious optimism. "**Perfected**" This was made for radio. "**Get It Up**" The heart and soul of the 70's-80's lounge scene and just as sensual. "**Coney Island**" a trip down memory lane complete with all the noises that made Coney Island so unforgettable. ....."**Coney Island brings me down, I don't go there no more**".....a fitting tribute to one of the most popular and long-gone, New York hot spots. "**Mine, Mine, Mine**" ah, yes. "**Mr. Wrong**" **Marilyn's** piano mastery is one of the highlights that shine here. "**When I See Your Face**" the ultimate love song. "**Between The Lines**" **Marilyn** can play the piano with flawless execution and she gets to strut her expertise here. "**Don't You Know Me?**" an auditory revelation. "**I Say I Love You**" harmonic ecstasy during this trip to subliminal fantasia.

IN SUMMARY: **Marilyn** is, without a doubt, one of the leading independent composers in the market today. With a gift for melodic flow, **Marilyn** excels some of the greats of this era. Her vocal approach is crystalline and stylish and only equaled by her extraordinary musicianship. Let it be said that this lady is the reigning diva of jazz.

What they're saying about

Marilyn Harris
BETWEEN THE LINES

...if you're into Steely Dan or Michael Franks,
Marilyn Harris fits right into the groove
and is a strong singer to boot.

Jerome Wilson - Cadence

...the near-perfect symmetry of warmth and intelligence informing each of these tunes...the impeccably-grooved swing of "Extra Baggage" and "When I See Your Face"... the bittersweet incisiveness of "Coney Island"...

Gene Seymour - New York Newsday

Ms. Harris' vocal style is sometimes reminiscent of Carole King, sometimes Billie Holiday, and always clear and vibrant. Swingy, bluesy, it is wonderful, relaxing and thoughtful music.

Lisa Drewel - Intermission

Marilyn Harris is a talented singer songwriter who composes intelligent lyrics and expresses her feelings quite well. This set is a success...

Scott Yanow - Jazz Times

INTERMISSION

St. Louis' Entertainment Monthly

Volume 3, Number 7

BETWEEN THE LINES

Crosses Musical Boundaries

Wrightwood Records proudly announces the release of a new record album: Marilyn Harris - BETWEEN THE LINES. Recorded in Chicago and New York, the album has 15 original songs featuring performances by international jazz artists **Steve Rodby** (Pat Metheny Group), **Mike Smith** and **Ron Kolber** (Frank Sinatra), **Georg Wadenius** (Donald Fagen, Blood Sweat & Tears), **Mark Walker** (Paul McCandless, Lyle Mays), as well as Chicago jazz stars **Steve Eisen, Bobby Lewis, Ron Friedman** & **Orbert Davis.**

Making jazz accesible to many audiences, BETWEEN THE LINES presents diverse jazz variations, from the uplifting, contemporary "Only You" to the r&b feel of "Mr. Wrong".

Marilyn Harris has been a professional musician since 1972. She has written arrangements for **Bette Midler** and **Lola Falana**, and had her original songs recorded by jazz artists **Anne Marie Moss** and **Jackie Paris**. Additionally, she's written songs for Sesame Street and composed and produced music for ABC-TV's General Hospital. Although this is her first outing as a solo recording artist, Marilyn has logged many hours in the recording studio writing, arranging, performing and producing music for advertising.

The album's tone is hopeful, happy, and healthy. Its theme is love - past, present, and future - moving on and hanging on. The particularly impressive part of the album is its poetry. Unlike some

contemporary love song/stories, Marilyn Harris' words have a bright, healthy outlook on love and relationships. "Mr. Wrong" and "I Say 'I Love You'" are possibly the most heartbreaking songs on the album, but they have a certain hope in them that the singer is aware of her unhappy situation. The universality of the stories draws the listener close and makes an emotional connection. Ms. Harris' vocal style is sometimes reminiscent of Carole King, sometimes Billie Holliday, and always clear and vibrant. The music is easy jazz, no five minute improvisational drum solos by far. Swingy, bluse-y, it is wonderful, relaxing, and thoughtful music. The album certainly gave this writer pause to think about present relationships and take account of current happinesses. Marilyn Harris' solo work has arrived at a most appropriate time, the era of the woman, and we are ready to enjoy and understand the strength and beauty of her words and music.

BETWEEN THE LINES is being released on CD and cassette and can be found in St. Louis at Music Vision and Webster Records - (soon at Streetside) - also available by mail order: c/o Wrightwood Records, P.O. Box 257421, Chicago, IL 60625. For more information contact Mark Wolfram at (312) 769-4014.

- Lisa Drewel

Wrightwood Records
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For Immediate Release

Jan. 17, 1995

"**Extra Baggage**", a big-band, swing-style song from Wrightwood Records new record album: Marilyn Harris - BETWEEN THE LINES has been featured on the **JAZZ FORUM** radio program on WBEZ (91.5 FM) in Chicago. Mentioned by host **Neil Tesser** were performances by jazz artists **Steve Rodby**, **Mike Smith**, **Georg Wadenius**, **Mark Walker**, **Steve Eisen**, & **Orbert Davis**, as well as kudos to **Marilyn Harris** for her keyboard & vocal performances, as well as her songwriting. "**Extra Baggage**" has also been featured recently on WNUA's **JAZZ CHICAGO STYLE** program with **Dave Freeman** & **Frank Lee**, and on KLON - America's Jazz Superstation.

Recorded in New York & Chicago, BETWEEN THE LINES presents 15 original songs by singer-songwriter-pianist **Marilyn Harris** in diverse jazz-pop variations, from the r&b feel of "**Mr. Wrong**" to the smooth, adult contemporary "**Only You**". Marilyn has been receiving wide acclaim for her jazz-pop album from all corners of the music industry, and performs regularly in the Los Angeles area.

BETWEEN THE LINES is available on CD (WRCD-1508) and cassette (WRCS-1508) and is distributed through **The Music Source** at 1-800-43MUSIC. For interviews, appearances or more information, contact **Betty Richards** at (818) 782-8131.

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MARILYN HARRIS

Twenty years ago Marilyn Harris first set foot in a recording studio and thought "I don't ever want to leave! ...Why can't I live here? ...This feels like home!" Her attraction to the piano at age five was a similar case of love-at-first-sight, and she started composing when she finally bought her own piano five years later. "I wrote music because as a kid I was too impatient to learn most songs from sheet music - I'd pick them out by ear, but then feel embarassed if someone heard me play a wrong note - so I made up new tunes so no one would *know* when I made a mistake!"

Marilyn Harris has been a professional musician since earning her Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Connecticut. Settling in New York City, Marilyn began working for E.B. Marks as a music proofreader in 1972, and then went on to become a music editor at Belwin-Mills. In the mid-70's she made her living primarily from music transcription and copying, supplemented by live performances in lounge groups, piano bars, and on cruise ships. Marilyn worked extensively during this period with jazz arranger **Gil Evans** and his band, which included **David Sanborn**, **Lew Soloff**, **Howard Johnson**, **Jon Faddis** and **Tom Malone**, among other notable jazz artists. From 1975 on, her freelance songwriting and arranging included work for **Children's Television Workshop/Sesame Street**, **Bette Midler**, **Lola Falana**, **Donna McKechnie** and hit songwriter **Allee Willis**.

After studying film scoring with **Ray Wright** and **Manny Albam** at Eastman School of Music in 1978, Marilyn produced music for commercials in Chicago (Amoco, McDonald's, Kraft, Kellogg's, United Airlines, etc.). Back in New York several of her songs were being recorded by jazz vocalists **Anne Marie Moss** and **Jackie Paris**, and "Free Flight", a jazzy rondo for flute and piano was being published by Kendor.

Together with her husband, **Mark Wolfram**, she composed, performed and produced over 200 music cues for **ABC-TV's General Hospital**, scored episodes of the animated **Flintstone Kids**, and provided an electronic music score for the theatrical play **Sea Marks**. Their themes and scoring were recently featured in Great Britain on BBC-5's hit radio drama **"Milford-Haven, U.S.A."** - which also showcases some of Marilyn's songs.

BETWEEN THE LINES, Marilyn's new release on Wrightwood Records, highlights her experiences as singer, songwriter, arranger and producer. **Gene Seymour**, arts columnist for **New York Newsday** noted "the near-perfect symmetry of warmth and intelligence informing each of these tunes ... the impeccably-grooved swing of **"Extra Baggage"** and **"When I See Your Face"**...the bittersweet incisiveness of **"Coney Island"** ... We finally have the album I always knew Marilyn Harris had to make because she was too gifted not to."